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Budgerigar  
Society  
Inc.**



**Monthly Bulletin**



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## OUR PURPOSE

President J. R. Spalding

OUR SOCIETY WAS FORMED BY A GROUP OF FANCIERS INTERESTED IN AN ACTIVE AND PROGRESSIVE SOCIETY TO HELP THE FANCIERS GAIN FURTHER KNOWLEDGE ON OUR CHOSEN HOBBY. WE SHALL ENDEAVOR WITH YOUR CO-OPERATION TO HAVE A SOCIETY OF WHICH WE CAN ALL BE PROUD. NO ONE PERSON'S EFFORT CAN INSURE SUCCESS. WE MUST ALL PULL TOGETHER.

OUR PURPOSE IS TO RAISE THE STANDARD OF THE BUDGERIGAR, AND TO GAIN A GREATER KNOWLEDGE OF HIS HABITS. WE ARE COMPOSED OF A GROUP WHICH IS DETERMINED TO SUCCEED, AND WE WILL SUCCEED IF ANY KIND OF SUPPORT IS GIVEN AT ALL. WE SHALL ALSO BRING ABOUT, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, A CODE OF ETHICS SO THAT THE NEWER FANCIER CAN BUY WITH CONFIDENCE, BY CLOSE BANDING ALL OUR BIRDS. WE WILL BE ABLE TO TELL THE SOURCE OF THE BIRDS PURCHASED AND WE WILL BE MORE OR LESS ASSURED THE AGE OF THE BIRDS. THE SYSTEM OF A MONTHLY BULLETIN IS THE INSTRUMENT BY WHICH WE CAN KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER, REGARDLESS HOW SCATTERED WE MAY BE.

\* \* \* \* \*



# ABS

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# MONTHLY BULLETIN

DECEMBER - 1951

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## THE NEW PSITTACINE QUARANTINE REGULATIONS

By E. B. Hudelson

In the November Bulletin we published a reproduction of the new Psittacine shipping regulations, and in the editor's footnotes, I promised to comment in the December issue. I shall confine my remarks to those parts of the new regulations that concern the hobbyist and commercial breeder.

We of the A.B.S. have been aware for some time that the officers would be criticised if the interstate shipping quarantine was lifted and that we would also be criticised if it was not lifted. First, by the bootleggers who were doing a thriving business in transporting the birds by trucks, etc. This new regulation will put the bootlegger out of business. Now the hobbyist and the small breeder can sell or purchase, and cause to be shipped birds he or she desires - Effective November 15, 1951.

From the beginning, the A.B.S. has been interested in fair play for all, and our aim was to bring about the acknowledgment that the Psittacine birds are no more to blame for virus fevers than any other bird or animal.

This we think is well established. Every living animal and human being is subject to virus infection, and it cannot and should not be blamed on the Psittacine family. So if we claim any credit, it has been in the educational field, - not by brow-beating the gentlemen of the U.S. Public Health Services. And don't let anyone kid you - no one tells Uncle Sam what to do or what not to do. The gentlemen of the U.S. Health Services have done a grand job. Their investigations are responsible, with the little help we have been to them, and I want it understood that our relations are friendly. We have grown to know each other and understand each other's problems.

Now as to foreign imports. We of the A.B.S. did not think it was to the best interest of the fancy to open the borders. We are aware of what happened to the world markets not so long ago by one or two countries who exported budgies in 50,000 lots. The U.S. Public Health Service Officers were aware of what could happen by permitting a lot of budgies produced from over-bred and underfed parents to enter the States. Following is the rule boiled down for the hobbyist:

Two birds may be brought in by the Owner. The effective date has not been released. He must submit a sworn statement



that he has not brought any other birds into the U.S. in preceding 12 months and that the two birds have been in his possession for the preceding 4 months and that they are not intended for sale in the U.S. and that they appear to the quarantine officer to be in good health. For further details, read (42 C F R Part 71).

We have received a lot of letters and long distance telephone calls both for and against lifting the quarantine on interstate shipments. Here again, we believe we have acted for the best interests of the Fancy as a whole. Let it be understood that we were interested in all the members of the fancy. But the final decision was up to the U.S. Public Health Services and they acted also in an impartial manner.

Now comes state rights. The lifting of the interstate quarantine does not give us the right to ship into states that have laws forbidding Psittacine birds entering such states. We will furnish information upon request and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Some of these state laws were enacted after the U.S. Public Health Services years ago sent out a form letter suggesting that regulations should be enacted to safeguard the public health. This was at a time when little was known of the viruses. Some states acted upon the suggestion - others did not. The present health officers inherited the regulation from former administrations. Some do not believe they are necessary and have not tried to enforce them, neither have they repealed the directive. It is hoped they will take some action to see that justice is done. I suggest the local breeders and budgie societies start the movement.

There are other state health officers who are in my opinion also politicians who have been making a grandstand play, hoping to make the headline in local newspapers by misleading statements and have caused to be published in local papers, articles on Psittacosis in Psittacine birds and Human Beings. These are cheap tricks to gain publicity and they should be exposed.

Now to the large commercial breeders. I was amazed to know how well the U.S. Public Health officers were posted as to localities and establishments, and of methods of breeding.

There are a few rules you have violated:

1. Breeding immature stock.
2. Overbreeding.
3. Parents feeding too many young in nest.
4. Cheap feed.
5. Cleanliness.



The violation of sound breeding principles results in diseases, and we as well as the U.S. Public Health Men are aware of it, and if you think I am kidding, read Paragraph (C) of Section (42 C F R Part 72), and you had better read it over a second time.

"(c) Whenever the Surgeon General finds that psittacine birds or human beings in any area are infected with psittacosis and there is such danger of transmission of psittacosis from such area as to endanger the public health, he may declare it an area of infection. No person shall thereafter transport, or offer for transportation, in interstate traffic any psittacine bird from such area, except shipments authorized by the Surgeon General for purposes of medical research and accompanied by a permit issued by him, until the Surgeon General finds that there is no longer any danger of transmission of psittacosis from such area. As used in this paragraph, the term 'area' includes, but is not limited to, specific premises or buildings."

There are a few breeders that should be put out of business and the above paragraph, when put into effect, can do it. My advice to A.B.S. Members is to use A.B.S. leg bands on every bird you raise.

Now I come to a part of this report I do not like. There are people in the commercial part of the Budgie fancy who are as tricky as a magician. They remind me of a story reported of a young writer who asked Mr. Walter Winchell what a young writer could do to attract the attention of the public. Mr. Winchell answered, attack some prominent person. So the young writer attacked Mr. Winchell.

This is a trick Mr. W. P. (Bill The Bird Man) Short, of the United B.S., has employed in the October issue of their bulletin. O.K. Billie Boy, you are recognized, and we are reproducing your article:



# WHAT THIS LAW MEANS TO YOU

**BIRDS MAY BE SHIPPED OCT. 27, 1951 FROM AND TO STATES THAT HAVE NO LAW ON PSITTACINE BIRDS.**

**BIRDS OF ALL AGES MAY BE SHIPPED.**

**YOU CANNOT SHIP BIRDS OF THE PSITTACINE FAMILY UNTIL OCTOBER 27, 1951, LEGALLY.**

## **A True Picture Of This Directive**

On October 10, 1950, a meeting was held at the Wayne County Hospital, Wayne County, Michigan, by Dr. Wilson; Dr. Leader, a representative of the U. S. Public Health Service, representing Dr. Price, Regional Director and W. P. Short, President of the United Budgerigar Society, Inc.

Dr. James Steele of the Foreign Quarantine District of the U. S. Public Health, Atlanta, Georgia, was called via telephone for permission to ship psittacine birds to the 2nd Annual National Bird Exhibition at Detroit. Dr. Steele stated he could not alter a directive or law, but would as soon as possible bring the matter before the U. S. Public Health officers, meeting as a body.

Mr. Short kept in close contact with Dr. Steele on the matter. At a later date a meeting was arranged with Mr. Spaulding, Dr. Steele, Mr. E. B. Hudelson, and Mr. Wm. Short at Indianapolis, Indiana. At that time Dr. Steele was impressed with the need for modification of the psittacine directive. The ultimate result of these meetings being that the present regulation is now on the Federal Register. This directive should become effective 15 days after October 12, 1951.

The expense, such as telephone, air passage fare, etc., was around \$1450.00. At the Nat'l. Bird Exhibition in Detroit, Mr. Spaulding presented Mr. Short with a beautiful engraved watch and a check for \$150., on behalf of A. B. S. for his efforts in getting this directive modified.

We wish to thank Dr. Steele, Dr. Wilson, Dr. Leader and Dr. Donahue for their splendid co-operation. This shows that a wide awake organization can and will protect the interest of all in the bird fancy.

Remember, this takes a little time. This has taken 1 year of plugging. If action is never started, however, nothing can be accomplished. How can everyone repay the favor? Just mail your application for membership to the Secretary of the **United Budgerigar Society, Inc.** and support same with your advertising.

**(NEXT MONTH WE WILL PUBLISH STATE LAWS)**

Permission is granted to reprint this article in its entirety—verbatim.



## COMMENTS ON THE ABOVE

In the first place, the law did not become effective until November 15, 1951.

First paragraph. On October 10, 1950, the United Budgerigar Society, Inc. was not in existence.

Third paragraph. The 15 days you speak of after October 12, 1951 is the period allowed for protest to be filed after the directive has been placed on the book in Washington.

Fourth paragraph. Expenses of \$1450.00 (?). Billie Boy, you should have been a politician - you use large figures. You made one trip - Detroit to Indianapolis:

Bus Fare Detroit to Air Port, Round Trip	\$3.00
Round Trip Fare by Air, about	34.00
Bus Fare Air Port to Indpls., Round Trip	2.50
Hotel Bill, Suite of Rooms, Claypool Hotel	14.50
Four Meals at \$2.00 each	<u>8.00</u>

Total           \$62.00

and \$62.00 from \$150.00 the A.B.S. paid you leaves \$88.00 for long distance call and miscellaneous expenses. Billie Boy, you made a public statement before a large audience at the National Show in Detroit that the A.B.S. paid the bill in full. I don't believe you spent \$1.45 - you are just careless with decimals. Now don't try to tell us how much you spent since the National Show at Detroit in the year of 1950, because from that time, you have done everything in your power to defeat the new regulation.

Billie Boy I believe you are a joiner. If you cannot beat anyone, then you join them. Is it not a fact that you have stated that you would see to it that Michigan would not permit Psittacine birds to be imported? Folk in Michigan know this. Is it not also a fact that you threatened to get an injunction to stop Uncle Sam from putting the new directive into effect? Further, is it not a fact that you registered complaints with the U.S. Public Health Services against the lifting of the interstate quarantine? Oh, yes, you did, Billie Boy; they said you did. Now I feel they will be glad to hear you are back in line. Referring to the last paragraph of your article, your plugging reminds me of the fellow who tried to plug a round hole with a square peg. Billie Boy, I love you, but remember this, you can kid some of the people part of the time, but you cannot kid all the people all of the time.



## THE NATIONAL SHOW

We are hoping to publish the winners in this issue, and will when we receive the report from the Show Secretary.

There were 2,526 birds benched; 440 budgies, a few budgies failed to arrive. It was a grand affair in every respect. The entries in the budgie section were as much as we could expect at the early date. I fear there were more budgies left at home due to the fall moult than appeared on the show bench. There were some good ones that were set down due to condition.

I was very happy to see those breeders of a few years' experience - some with only one or two years - winning Rosettes. I take my hat off to them; their birds were in good condition and the type of their exhibits was excellent.

There was just one thing that happened that we all regretted. The Best Budgie, owned by Mrs. Artis of Xenia, Ohio, escaped or was stolen. This happened while most of the exhibitors were attending the Banquet and while a police officer and seven watchers were in the hall.

A collection was made up of \$125.00 by the Chairman, Mr. Pieschel, true sport in the canary fancy, and A.B.S. members, to reimburse Mrs. Artis for her loss. Mrs. Artis in turn is offering the \$125.00 as a reward for the return of the bird and no questions asked.

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## SPECIAL NOTICE

An urgent demand exists for pictures of Budgerigars, both pet and breeding stock, together with pictures of aviaries, aviary equipment, play pens, etc.

Breeders who have such pictures are urged to send them to the Editor at once. Others, with cameras, are requested to have such pictures taken. Clear, contrasty pictures 4x5, or 8x10 are preferred, but snap shots will be welcomed. And needless to say, colored s/lots will be greatly appreciated.

These pictures will be releases for publicity purposes. While 'credit lines' and compensation cannot be promised, the possibility of credit being given does exist. So, be sure to put your name, address, and other pertinent information on the back of each pic-



ture with a soft pencil: don't press hard.

In special demand at this moment are pictures which show constructional features of aviaries and equipment of all types. We are just as interested in pictures of the spare room, attic, basement or garage conversion as we are in specially built aviaries - and we are interested in these too!

Breeders who have constructed their own bird room equipment are especially requested to send pictures, and drawings (rough sketches will do), specifications and simple constructional information. The items we are interested in range from the simplest cage scraper, to a complete aviary. Nothing is too big, too elaborate, too simple, or too small!

If you have built something for your birds, that you like, send us the pictures and sketches today. Do this even if you know a hundred other breeders who are using the same idea. That's exactly what we want - ideas that others will like!

THE DEMAND EXISTS NOW. SO, PLEASE, GET YOUR  
PICTURES, SKETCHES AND IDEAS INTO THE MAIL TODAY!

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## NOTICE TO SHOW SECRETARIES

Will you please let the A.B.S. Editor have the names of the Winners in your Shows? We will try to group these for publishing in the January Issue along with pictures.

\*\*\*\*\*

## INTRODUCING THE NEW MEMBERS

Mr. V. L. Logan	Missouri
Mr. J. Edw. White	Maine
Mr. Jack D. Thompson	Illinois
Rev. James A. Simons	Pennsylvania
Mr. Julius Seidel	Florida
Mrs. D. Henrietta Morgan	Ohio
Mrs. A. H. Crenshaw	Texas
Mr. John J. Klusman	New Jersey
Mrs. H. C. Carpenter	California
Mrs. Louise Dembaum	California
Mrs. Rose Krahmer	Maryland
Mrs. Ralph Snively	Illinois



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Judges and Workers in a recent Cleveland, Ohio, Combined Show of Canary, Wild Birds and Budgies, in which The Northeastern Budgerigar Society cooperated in by staging 287 budgies - a real record for a young club. Back row, 5th from right is Mrs. Virginia Davey, President. Front row, on the left, is Mrs. Clite Wilson, Secretary. Mr. J. R. Spalding, front row, 3rd from left, judged the Budgies.

\*\*\*\*\*

WE WISH TO EXTEND OUR BEST WISHES  
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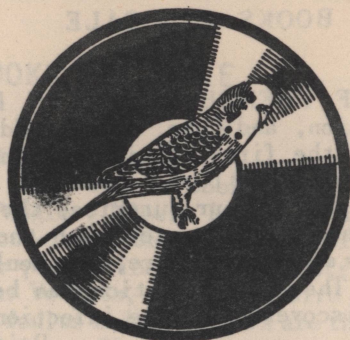
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## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Answered by Matthew F. Bender

Benny S. Staner, Cleveland, Ohio.

Q. From three nests, sixteen Yellow Faced progeny from following parents:

Sire	Sky Blue Opaline
Grandsire	Sky Blue Opaline
Granddame	Cobalt Opaline
Dame	Cobalt Opaline
Grandsire	Cobalt
Granddame	Cobalt

A. Your Yellow Faced progeny are clearly the result of a reversion to a formerly existing character. Such reversions are caused by two factors being brought together which are required in the production of the unexpected phenotype.

Our knowledge of the genetics of the canary provides a clue as to the nature of this reversion. One parent of your Yellow Faced progeny must be homozygous for a recessive mutation in the genetic series responsible for the production of prolipochrome; a colorless substance which when catalyzed changes into yellow lipochrome. The second parent must be homozygous for a recessive mutation in the genetic series responsible for the catalytic action.

The chance mating of your two parent birds brought together the factors necessary for Yellow Face progeny.

Stated in another manner: one parent is pp CC, the other PP cc. The progeny therefore are all Pp Cc.

Since the mating of the two parent birds to white faced blues (in a previous year) produced all normal progeny, it is clear that a normal bird does not carry either of the factors necessary for Yellow Face. I therefore predict the following breeding results:

YF Progeny X Normals (unrelated stock)

25% Pp Cc	Yellow Face
25% Pp cc	White Face
25% pp Cc	White Face
25% pp cc	White Face Normals.



YF Progeny X YF Progeny

6.25% PP CC Yellow Face  
 12.5% PP Cc Yellow Face  
 6.25% PP cc White Face  
 12.5% Pp CC Yellow Face  
 25% Pp Cc Yellow Face  
 12.5% Pp cc White Face  
 6.25% pp CC White Face  
 12.5% pp Cc White Face  
 6.25% pp cc White Face Normals

The above mating produces nine genotypes; four Yellow-Face, four White Face, and one Normal. The first YF genotype will produce 100% YF when mated to normals. The second and third 50%, the fourth 25%. White Faces when mated together will produce from 25% YF, up, provided both P and C factors are involved.

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE ODD PAGE

By Norman Rocheville

On several occasions I have been asked whether or not the color condition of the cere in the Budgerigar is instrumental in bringing about a particular male to a particular female for the purpose of copulation. I could go on to say, "Ask the Budgie, he can talk," but this would be too simple and too evasive an answer for this writer to give.

In the wild state, the color condition of the cere may have some effect in bringing together male and female bird, but this is not certain. True, Nature provides such attractive coloration for the purpose of attracting male to female or vice versa, but the study of Budgerigars under domestication shows that this is not the case with the color condition of the cere. The healthy Budgie does not seem to care whether or not his mate of choosing sports a brown, a blue or a tan cere. All he is interested in is to function sexually, which is a condition uncontrollable in animals. The breeders know from past experiences that Budgerigars mate regardless of the color of the cere, and that it is strongly advised not to mate birds that show an off-colored cere. Such a color is a sure indication that the bird is out of breeding condition.

The cere is an intriguing part of the Budgerigar. It has many



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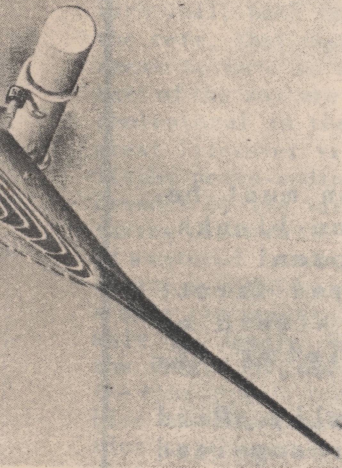


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purposes, including being a guide for the wise breeder. First of all, the cere is the only tactile part of the Budgerigar. It is the development of an abundance of nerve-endings, called Pacinian corpuscles. It is the only part of the Budgerigar that is devoid of protective covering. No other part of the Budgerigar can indicate so rapidly and distinctly an abnormal condition as the color of the cere.

Let's look over carefully the body of the Budgerigar: the eyes are protected by lids, and also by a third membrane -- nictitating membrane -- used by the birds when feeding youngsters or when in flight, as protection against objects; feathers cover the greater part of the body, offering both warmth and protective covering for the delicate skin; scales cover the legs and feet, affording a shield toward off the extremes of climatic conditions and the outcome of activities that would otherwise prove harmful; the mouth is well protected by a horny sheath that serves the bird well, both in combat and numerous activities; and finally, the cere, that unprotected but all-important mass of flesh that seems to have so many uses in the bird. First, the beneficial rays of the sun are taken in through the cere, and once there, the cholesterol in the Budgerigar's skin is transformed into that great lifesaver vitamin D. The cere, aside from being a mass of fleshy nerve-endings, is also a color chart which can tell the breeder by its various shades just what biological changes are taking place in the body of the bird. For example, should the cere of a matured female turn from brown to blue, the blueness may indicate a degeneration of the ovary, and the blue cere, exclusively a male characteristic, is assumed by the female, that is, neither male nor female. When a degeneration of the ovary takes place, the female very often acquires some masculine characteristics, and the blue cere is one observed in the female Budgerigar. Of course, blue cere does not always indicate a degeneration of the ovary: blue cere may also indicate illness, due to drafts, change of diet, or excitement brought about by travel. The birds that are traveling to and from the shows may show a change in the color of the cere. This condition can easily be remedied by careful observation first, then by correcting the source of that condition. Drafts should be checked and corrected; diets should be changed to the normal diet, or the one the birds are accustomed to; illness should be diagnosed and treated properly until such time as the cere shows normal color. Illness should never be treated, however, unless advice of an authority is first obtained.

The female in breeding condition shows a color in the cere that is described as "a rich nut brown." This indicates a biological change both in the cere and also in the ovary, which is due to the increase of fatty materials in the blood stream which



are conveyed to the ovary and form part of the yolk. CAUTION: Never mate a hen that shows traces of blue on the outer edges of the cere; such a bird should be separated and brought into breeding condition before being placed with a male; do not mate the bird until all traces of blue have disappeared from the cere.

At this time of year many breeders may have observed brown ceres in young hens. Disregard this color as an indication that the bird has reached sexual maturity. One year is required to develop fully the reproductive organs of females. Birds under one year are definitely not ready to meet the father of their future progeny. Such a condition in the young hen is often observed and very often confuses the breeder. Banded birds will relieve you of such confusion.

Let the cere's color be your guide this coming breeding season and you can't go wrong. This does not mean to imply that all hens with brown ceres should be mated regardless of their condition or potentialities as producers of fine stock. Mate your birds according to your plans, but do not follow through with the pairs you want mated if the cere indicates a change that tells you there is something wrong organically.

To anyone who did not meet with success the past season and wishes to obtain a bit of insurance for the coming season, it would be wise to study thoroughly any of the fine books advertised in the Bulletin, and by putting to use that which you learn from the authors, who are reputed to be the world's best writers on Budgerigars.

Merry Christmas to all!

\*\*\*\*\*

Editor's Note: The brown covering of the cere can be misleading and not in every case a determining factor of breeding condition. I do not pay a lot of attention to its color, rather to the condition of the plumage. After the fall moult, I wait 4 to 6 weeks for the bird to regain stamina and flesh lost during the moult; when the birds have a rich lustre to their plumage, then I mate them. Recently a hen was brought to me by a breeder who said the hen had been with the cock for three weeks. The feather indicated the hen was out of condition. The owner remarked about the color of the cere which was a pale brown. My remark was that the color in this case was no indication. To prove my point, I caught the hen and with my finger nail, I started at the top of the cere and loosened the brown skin covering. It peeled off as dead skin



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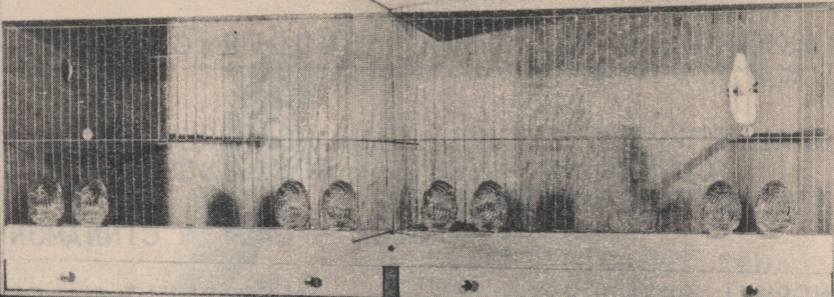
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from a sun burn. Underneath was the true indication - Cere bluish grey.

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Norman Rocheville

\*\*\*\*\*

## SOME BREEDING RESULTS

By Cyril H. Rogers

For some time past I have been going to write about some of my pairings of this season, but for some reason or other I have postponed doing it until now.

This season I have produced Pies in all of the following colours - Light, Dark and Olive Green, Cobalt and Mauve, Opaline, Light Green, Dark Green, Cobalt and Mauve, Yellow-wing Dark Green and Whitewing Cobalt. The Pied Opalines are most interesting as they carry rather more than usual amount of wing markings and in some cases the whole of the wing, with the exception of the primary and secondary flights, carry the usual Opaline markings which looks very attractive. The mantle area is quite clear in all the specimens I have bred.

All the Opaline Pied birds have been hens and were bred from Normal/Opaline Pied cocks paired to Pied hens. Next season I hope to be able to breed Pied Opaline cocks with the material I now have.

There are several special features about the Pied birds which I have noticed now that I have bred them in quantity: firstly, there is a distinct difference in the depth of the yellow colouring carried by the cocks and hens. Then the great majority of hen birds retain their forehead barring when they have assumed their adult plumage; this seems to be quite the reverse with cock birds except an odd case here and there. Another thing I have noted is that Pies are very difficult indeed to sex with any degree of certainty until they are completely adult, in fact, I think they are the most difficult of all the colours.



Now back to breeding results: I had put up two pairs for the purpose of breeding Pied Clearwings but strangely enough the first one I produced was from a most unexpected source. At the beginning of the season I had mated a Mauve/Opaline Pied cock to a Dark Green Pied hen and in the next pen a Pied Light Green/White cock to a Light Green/Pied Blue hen. That is how I wanted these two pairs to mate but they had other ideas on the matter and mated vice versa through the wire partition. After a few days I could plainly see that nothing would come of my selection so I re-mated them as they desired. In due course eggs were laid, incubated and chicks started to hatch out under both pairs. The two Pieds had two chicks from four eggs and the 'split' Pieds had three chicks from four eggs: in each case the first egg laid was clear. As it was to be expected the two chicks from the Pied pair were both Pieds - one Dark Green and one Light Green. The first chick from the pair of 'splits' was a normally coloured Dark Green, the second a Pied Dark Green, and with the third I thought I had actually bred a 'Clear' dark eyed Yellow! When the chick got more fully feathered I could see that it was going to be a Pied Yellow-wing Dark Green - incidentally one of the first to be produced. This bird, a cock, is a most charming example of the Pied variety and I am most thrilled with breeding him even though I cannot claim the credit for planning his production. I have shown this bird several times and his colouration has puzzled a great many breeders. The whole of the top part of his body, including his wings, is clear bright deep yellow with just faint smoky markings on his wing butts and the underpart of his stomach and a patch on his back are bright dark green of the tone usually associated with Yellow-wings.

From my other Pied breeding pairs I have produced Pieds and 'splits' in the usual percentages. One thing I have noticed that there seems to be an unusual number of Dark Green birds, both Pieds and Normals, from Pied matings. Last year the same thing happened, in fact it was not until this season that I produced Pieds in Light Blue and 'splits' in Light Blue and Olive.

The nearly clear Pied Green I bred last year has been most unfortunate in my selection of hens - the first one I paired him to was a fine large Cinnamon but would she have anything to do with him - No! Result - two nests of clear eggs. The second hen - a Dark Green/Pied, a good breeder last year, made no attempt to nest. I finally paired him to a normal Opaline and got three Light Green chicks from four eggs.

From my Blue Pieds and Blue/Pieds, I noticed in the young produced a considerable variation in the amount of variegation and body colouring particularly with the cobalt coloured ones.



Most of the Cobalts carried a number of dark flights and tail feathers whereas the Green Pieds were mostly clear flighted even when Green and Blue Pieds were in the same nest.

From my Green and Blue Bi-colour cock paired to a Fallow hen I only produced three chicks in two nests. The first nest gave me one Cobalt and three eggs dead in shell: from the second I fared a little better and got two more Cobalts and again three dead in shell. I am hoping next year to mate this cock with another hen and see if the dead in shell still persists: some years ago I had another Bi-coloured cock and he also had a number of dead in shell.

I noticed with great interest in the last Bulletin the mention of Yellow-faced birds being bred from two white-faced parents. I reported this matter some years ago in one of your Bulletins: I produced fifteen chicks from my pair and when these chicks were mated they proved to be single factor Yellow-face; I still have quite a number of their descendents in my colours.

There are in England quite a lot of Yellow-faced Green birds and of course it is difficult to distinguish between them and ordinary Greens. Such birds when mated to Blues produce, amongst others, Yellow-faced Blues mostly to the surprise of their breeders.

Another interesting bird I have produced this year is a Sky Blue hen with blue markings on her wings instead of the normal White. At the moment she is moulting heavily and I am anxious to see how she will be in her first adult plumage.

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## THAT YELLOW FACED RIDDLE

By Matt Bender

In the Budgerigar, unexpected breeding results occur so frequently that only an unusual exception to normal expectations can cause a flurry of speculation and interest. Such an unusual occurrence is the production of Yellow Faced Blues, or Whites, from White Faced parents.

Several reports of this occurrence have been made by different breeders living in different countries, and on different continents. There can be no doubt but what this event has actually occurred.

Most of these reports, however, have been so incomplete and inadequate as to be of little help in arriving at an accurate understanding of the genetical factors involved.

Mrs. Bruhl's report was no exception in this regards. She reported that from two White Faced parents she had obtained 100% Yellow Faced progeny; not greens. A total of twenty one Yellow Faced offspring from the same two parents. No information as to the pedigrees of the parents was included. Nor was information included as to any breeding results obtained with the progeny, a part of which were over a year old at the time the report was made.

Before attempting to solve the riddle, it would be well to tabulate such information as is known concerning the Yellow Faced factors.

From Budgerigar Matings and Colour Expectations, we learn that:

1. YF Type I is a dominant autosomal mutation.
2. YF Type II is a dominant autosomal mutation.
3. The two types are alleles.
4. Type II is dominant to Type I.
5. Yellow Faced birds vary widely in intensity of color.

To this information, we may add that to be found in Cessa Feyereabend's new book, "Budgerigar Guide"½

6. Type III Yellow Faced is the Golden Faced bird.
7. Type I X Type III produces all White Face.
8. Sons from above mated to normals produce nearly 100% 6% Types I and III.
9. Type I X Type II produces some Type III.



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# 10. Doubt is cast on the existence of Double Factor Yellow Faced individuals.

It would be interesting to learn whether the paternal, or maternal, grandparents of Mr. Bruhl's Yellow Faced progeny were both Yellow Faced birds. If such was the case, it is quite probable that one was a Type I and the other a Type III Yellow Face.

If this were true it would seem to suggest that Complementary Action was involved; Type I and Type III being located on separate chromosomes and each contributing something necessary for the production of the White Faced type.

Such action is well known in the annals of genetics. A classic example is that of two pure breeding white varieties of sweet peas being crossed, and producing ALL purple progeny. The explanation given is that the first variety is of CC pp genotype, and the second variety cc PP. Now all progeny of the cross will have the genotype CcPp, and if it be assumed that purple depends upon the presence of both C and P we can then understand why all progeny are purple in color. Bio-chemical tests have in fact proven this theory to be correct.

Logical as this assumption may seem, the fact remains that if the progeny from Type I X Type III be mated to normal blues we should obtain 25% Type I, 25% Type III, 25% Normals, 25% White Faced progeny capable of producing Yellow Faced progeny. The breeding results, therefore, would be at considerable variance with the nearly 100% Type I and III mentioned by Mrs. Feyerabend. The variation may, however, be more apparent than real; Mrs. Feyerabend's observations may well have been based on too limited a number of progeny to be considered conclusive as to actual percentages of each type produced.

It would be interesting to learn whether the White Faced birds resulting from the above described mating have been mated to normals of the blue or white series, and if so what results have been obtained.

Another interesting fact to be gleaned from the limited information available is that the production of some YF Type III from the mating of Type I X Type II appears to be at variance with the information contained in "Budgerigar Matings and Colour Expectations."

According to the information contained in that book, we have five genotypes involving Type I and Type II: the single factor I, double factor I, single factor II, double factor II, and the heterozygous II/I.



If we depend solely upon this information we find it impossible to explain how Type III are produced by mating Type I X Type II. Even if we assume that Type III is actually II/I we again run into trouble when we try to account for the production of the Yellow-Face-producing White Faces from the mating of Type I X Type III. The expectations would be all Yellow Faced individuals.

And if we assume that Type I and II are located on separate chromosomal pairs, we again run into the same trouble. Under these conditions it would be assumed that Type III carries at least one factor for both Type I and II. But does that account for those unpredictable White Faced birds? Certainly not!

This may seem like a lot of rambling around and getting no place, but we have actually arrived at a sound basis for a positive deduction.

More than two mutations are involved in the production of the three Yellow Faced phenotypes. And since some Type III birds are produced from the mating of Type I X Type II, the additional mutations are carried by Type I and/or type II.

Now let us go back and consider just the information given by Mrs. Bruhl, and that contained in "Budgerigar Matings." We will ignore for a moment certain facts given us by Mrs. Feyerabend.

The facts: Twenty one Yellow Faced progeny from two White Faced parents.

Question: Is a series of dominant mutations involved?

Answer: No. Mutations are rare events.

Question: Is sex/linkage involved?

Answer: Apparently not. Though sex of progeny was not stated, it seems apparent that at least part must have been of each sex.

Question: Is a recessive mutation for Yellow Face involved?

Answer: No. If both parents had been split to a new recessive mutation for Yellow Face only twenty-five percent of the progeny would have been Yellow Face.

Question: Is epistasis involved?

Answer: Again no! If an epistatic factor were involved, either one half or none of the progeny would have been Yellow-Faced.

Question: What about a recessive White Faced mutation?

Answer: On the basis of the information now being considered, this appears to be a distinct possibility.

One of the Yellow-Faced progeny's parents might have been



Homozygous for both Yellow Face, and recessive White Face. Under these conditions, all progeny would be Yellow Face/rec White Face. It would also indicate that the paternal, or maternal, grandparents of the Yellow Faced progeny each carried at least one factor for Yellow Face, and one for recessive White Face.

It seems apparent to me that, in addition to the Dominant YF factors with which so many breeders are well acquainted, recessive autosomal mutations may be associated with the Yellow Faced factors.

I have no knowledge as to what previous writers have said concerning the probable biochemistry of the Yellow Faced factors. Some deductions may possibly be arrived at, though, by consideration of that which is known concerning the canary.

In the canary two mutations from yellow to white have occurred. The first, a dominant mutation, is believed to have occurred at some point in the genetic series responsible for the production of prolipochrome, a colorless substance. The second, a recessive mutation, is believed to have occurred in a gene (or at some point in a genetic series) which controls a catalytic action. This action changes the prolipochrome into yellow lipochrome. the yellow coloring agent in feathers.

Now if instead of considering the mutant genes for white, we consider their normal alleles, we find that the prolipochrome factors are recessive, and the catalytic factors dominant. This is not identical with, but nevertheless very suggestive of that which has previously been mentioned: a Dominant Yellow Face associated with recessive factors.

Another factor which points toward the possibility of two pairs of genes being involved in Yellow Face, is the fact that this factor is apparently a partial reversion to the wild type. Many cases of reversion are known in both animals and plants. And such reversions are said to be caused by the reuniting of two or more genes which are required in the production of the reversionary type.

Now let us assume that two mutations for blue, (absence of yellow) have occurred in the Budgerigar; one mutation affecting the production of prolipochrome, the other the catalytic action. The chance mating of two such birds, each homozygous for one of these factors, would bring together once again the factors necessary for the production of yellow, and a reversion would have occurred. All progeny would be yellow ground, and if a further mutation had occurred either in one of the mutant factors or at a different point, the distribution of yellow might be restricted



to the typical Yellow Faced areas.

If each of the parent birds were heterozygous for one of the mutant factors, 25% of the progeny would be Yellow Face instead of 100%.

It seems quite possible to me that this situation may have existed in Mrs. Lait's aviary back in 1937 when she produced some Yellow Faced birds. And, if Mrs. Bruhl's Yellow Faced progeny do not have any Yellow Faced grandparents the same situation must have occurred in her aviary.

One argument against this theory is the fact that both yellow and green Budgerigars may carry the Yellow Faced factor in addition to their normal factors for Yellow. It is almost as if one or more factors had been duplicated, and such may well be the case.

The theory, however, may explain why some experienced breeders claim never to have found a double factor Yellow Face, while Mr. Brooks and others claim that they exist. A bird homozygous for Yellow Face might well be heterozygous for production, and non-production of prolipochrome. Now if such a bird were mated to a normal blue (which has no factors for the production of prolipochrome) only 50% of the progeny would be Yellow Faced individuals. On the other hand, if the homozygous Yellow Face were also homozygous for the production of prolipochrome, 100% of the progeny would be Yellow Face.

Then if the progeny were mated to normal blues the expectations would be: 25% Yellow Face, 25% Normals, 25% Normal in appearance but carrying one Yellow Faced catalytic factor, and 25% Normal in appearance but carrying one prolipochrome factor!

Mate catalytic factor normals together and 25% of the progeny will be homozygous for this factor. Mate prolipochrome factor normals together and 25% of the progeny will be homozygous for that factor. Mate a bird of normal appearance but homozygous for the catalytic factor, to a bird of normal appearance but homozygous for prolipochrome production, and 100% of the progeny will be Yellow Faced birds.

Birds heterozygous for the prolipochrome factor will undoubtedly be much paler in color than those homozygous for this factor. In the canary the heterozygote carries only faint traces of yellow. And these pale colored birds would produce fewer Yellow Faced progeny than are called for in the Tables of Expectations: 25% for the single factor YF, and 50% for the double factor YF.



This corresponds quite well with Mrs. Feyeraabend's remarks in her new book, "The Budgerigar Guide". In this book she reports that many breeders have complained about the small percentage of progeny obtained from a YF X normal mating.

\*\*\*\*\*

The foregoing article represents at its best only a good guess on my part. Whether I am close to the truth or far from it can only be determined by ACTUAL BREEDING TESTS. Deductions may be based upon limited information and a knowledge of theory, but such deductions must be proven before they may be accepted as facts!

The practical breeder can learn one thing of importance from this article. Unusual breeding results are invariably explainable in accordance with sound genetical principles. The explanation, however, must be based upon known facts. And, if these facts are not clearly apparent they must be determined, and/or verified by actual test matings.

Unfortunately the average breeder is not qualified, nor can he afford to run such a series of tests. In such cases, consolidation of information is called for; each breeder with knowledge contributing his share.

The American Budgerigar Society has a Genetics Department headed by Mr. Braunstein for this reason. Let's put him to work!

Breeders who encounter unusual breeding results, or what seem to be new mutations, are requested to submit detailed information, or questions, to Mr. E. B. Hudelson. Where an immediate explanation or answer seems possible, the information and questions will be forwarded to me and my reply will appear in the Bulletin.

In other cases, the information will be forwarded to Mr. Braunstein who will consolidate, and tabulate, the information and make suggestions for such breeding tests as may seem called for. Then when sufficient information has been obtained to warrant such action, a detailed report will be printed in the Bulletin.

\*\*\*\*\*

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## RAMBLING HERE AND THERE

By E. B. Hudelson

First - I wish to offer my apologies to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Perkins, of Royal Oak, Mich. It was reported in October Bulletin that Mr. and Mrs. Standacher won 3rd Best Breed in the Indiana Budgie Society Unflighted Show. This was a mistake - the Third Best of Breed was won by Mr. and Mrs. Perkins.

Yes - I pulled another one, or someone did it for me. On Page 31 of the October Bulletin, in reference to the Australian Grey, it states that this variety is sex-linked. Someone had asked me the question. I intended to state they are not sex-linked.

### FRENCH MOULT, ETC.

We have mailed out a lot of the new remedy for French Moults. We have received only one report where this remedy has failed. In this case, the chicks were treated, but the hen who was hovering them was not.

You must understand that any treatment must be thorough.

If birds are in an outdoor flight, they should be dipped two or three times when moved into winter quarters, and the pairs should be dipped when they are mated up. Then if French Moults develop in the nest box, you can be sure that the infection is coming from the seed or equipment that has been transferred to winter quarters.

If there are sufficient mites allowed to get into the warm breeding room, you are in for trouble, and it will require repeated treatments of all the birds, both old and young, and every piece of equipment. We know for a fact the mites and/or their eggs are transferred on equipment, feed, cuttle bone, and budgie egg. No remedy will be successful unless it is properly applied. Other breeders and I who have experienced a general outbreak of French Moults can testify that it spreads like fire. Breeders by the hundreds have cured F. M. Every mail brings one or more reports of cures, but these people worked. Now Dett has cured F.M. and so has D.L.T. Powder here and in Britain. It is my belief that in those cases where it failed, the remedies were used in a haphazard manner. I make this statement again. I will cure any case of F.M., providing the feather cell is not so badly damaged that it cannot produce the feather. Every breeder with an open mind will tell you that the chicks that develop French Moults were

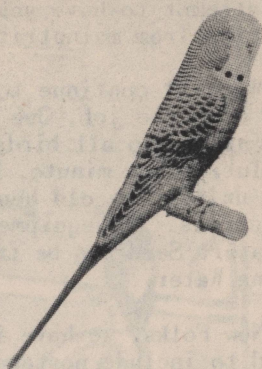


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Now Folks, we have in some cases taken a loss when you have failed to include postage - A larger loss on breakage. In trying to minimize the breakage, we are packing in large cartons. Quarts weigh just under 5 pounds - Pints just under 3 pounds. When ordering, call your Parcel Post Rates Clerk for the correct amount of postage required for 3 or 5 lbs. as the case demands, from Indianapolis to your town, and include the amount with your remittance. Otherwise, it will be sent Railway Express Collect. Please do not ask for C.O.D. service. I am not permitted to send anything C.O.D.

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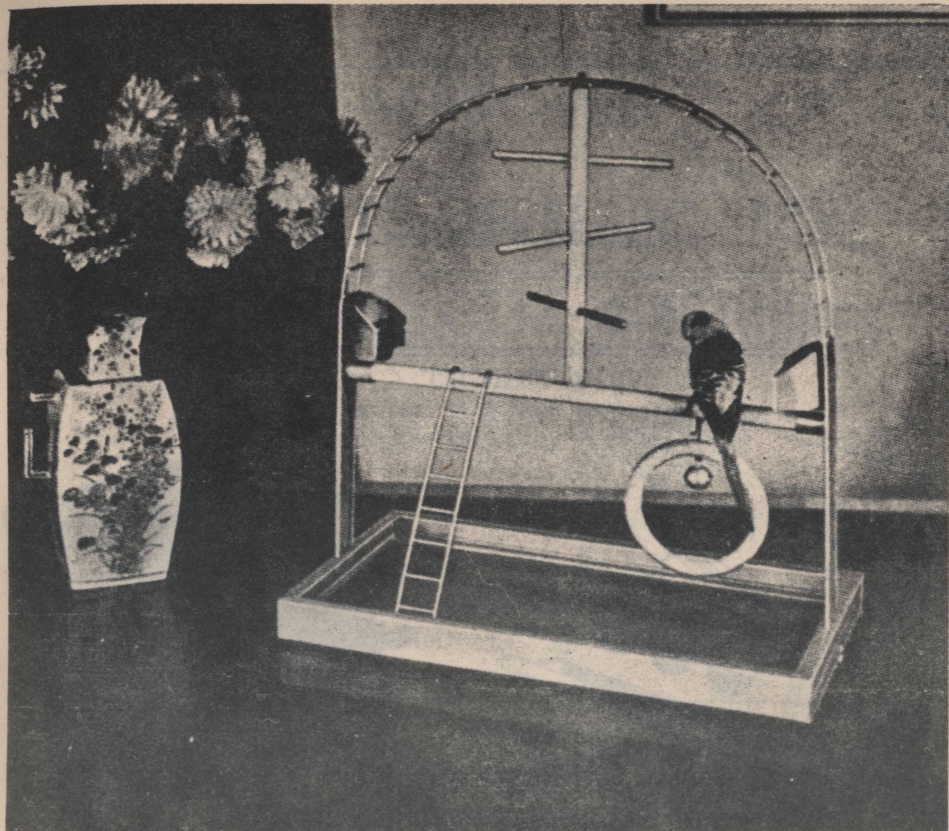
Dr. H. M. Luburgh, D.D.S., of 306 E. Pecse Ave., West Carrollton, Ohio, handed me a ten dollar bill at the National Show, to be used as we see fit. Thanks, Dr. Luburgh.

A few days before the National Show, I received another \$5.00 donation from Mr. M. E. Kniebes, for National Show prizes. It arrived too late to be used as a prize. We do appreciate these gifts and they will be used for some worthy cause. Mr. Spalding and I have often dug into our pockets to do something for the fancy that we felt the A.B.S. could not afford. I can recall several times when it was fifty to over one hundred dollars each. Mr. Braunstein and Mr. Brown have also done some digging.

\*\*\*\*\*

There are several reasons why writers do not sign their names to their articles. Some are modest - Some do not have time to answer correspondence, and some realize they can put over their idea to those who are uninformed - But the printed word is no good unless it is supported by facts, so investigate the facts. Personally, I have never approved of myth writers.





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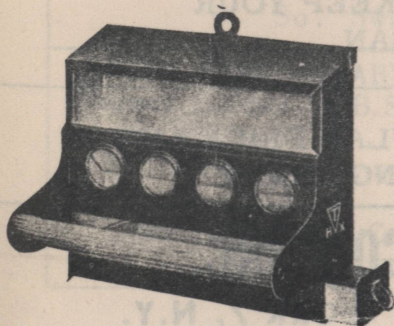
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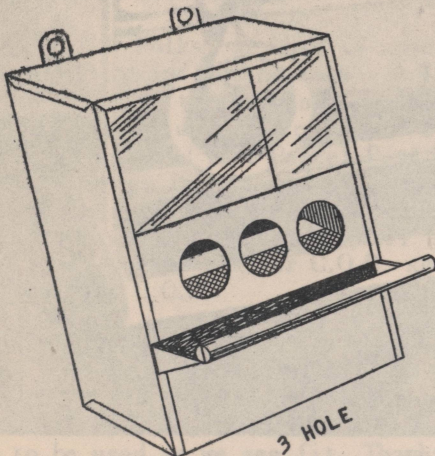
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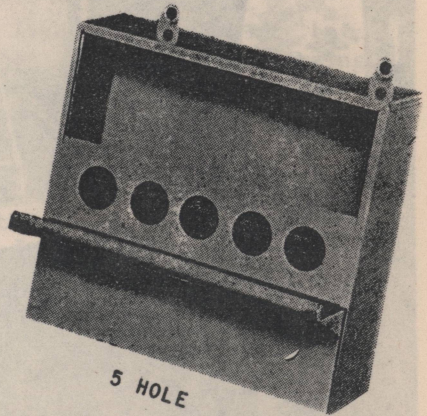
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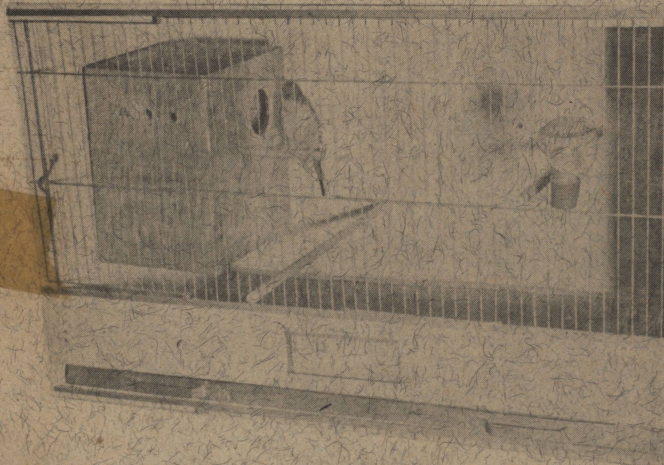


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